



ECCV Position Paper on strengthening Police and CALD community relations

1. ECCV values the economic, social and cultural contribution ethnic communities have made to Victoria.
2. ECCV welcomes the Victorian Police's ongoing collaborative efforts with culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities and acknowledges the positive development made to strengthen community relationships.
3. ECCV acknowledges that young people from culturally diverse backgrounds have a strong desire to seek a better education, find employment and live in a safe and secure environment. However, they often have to contend with social alienation, racial discrimination and lack of opportunities.
4. ECCV continues to promote empowerment of culturally diverse communities and thereby supports anti-discrimination strategies to facilitate cultural engagement.
5. ECCV encourages local communities, government and the media to facilitate cultural awareness by implementing additional programs to strengthen cultural competence in Australian communities.
6. ECCV understands that in order to continue building a multicultural society free from discrimination, influential institutions and authority figures such as the Victorian Police should adopt a role-model based practise by continuing to interact and strengthen multilateral relationships with people of culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.
7. ECCV advocates for independent reviews if reports of misconduct or discrimination have been raised to restore community confidence in the justice system.
8. ECCV recommends that Victoria Police be provided with additional training regarding impacts of racial and religious profiling, and that they participate in anti-discriminatory training and continuing integrity tests regarding attitudes towards racial and religious groups.

9. ECCV encourages the Australian Government to legislate against racial profiling and for anti-racial profiling legislation to be included in the proposed Bill of Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination (2012).
10. ECCV encourages enforcement mechanisms to be applied to ensure anti-racial profiling policies are followed and for culturally responsive support to be made available for victims of racism.
11. ECCV recognises that young people from culturally diverse backgrounds are vulnerable to excessive police contact. ECCV therefore calls for the Victorian Government to improve diversion programs for young people in Victoria's justice system that is culturally sensitive of their migration, settlement experiences and current circumstances.
12. ECCV discourages the vilification of all individuals by the media that assists negative perceptions and stereotypes of people from culturally diverse communities.
13. ECCV recognizes racial profiling and discrimination as a violation of fundamental human rights. Racial profiling impinges on the right to freely participate in the community subjected to acts that do not align with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
14. ECCV supports a National Anti-Racism Strategy encouraging support for multiculturalism by highlighting the economic and social benefits of immigration of people from CALD communities.